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KNIGHTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To

The Chairman and Members of the
Knighton Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1941.

Mr Chairman, Mrs Coltman Rogers and Gentlemen.

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1941. Owing to the War the Ministry of Health has asked for a very curtailed report. No statistics have been submitted by the Registrar General, all statistics will be given in a full report at the end of hostilities.

The district is mountainous and purely agricultural, it comprises 16 Parishes. The majority of the dwelling houses are isolated Farms or Cottages. The population has been increased due to the influx of Evacuees from various parts of the Country.

The Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector are the only Public Health Officials. Both are part time.

Laboratory Facilities. There is an Emergency Public Health Laboratory set up in Aberystwyth under the direction of the Medical Research Council. The services are free, and the Bacteriologists are available for consultation on questions affecting Public Health.

Nursing in the Home. There are nine fully trained General and Midwifery Nurses in the District.

Hospitals and Clinics. The Hospitals at Shrewsbury and Llandrindod Wells adequately meet the needs of the District.

Infectious Disease. Five cases of Scarlet Fever were notified during the year. Three at Knucklas, one at Llandewy, and one at the Knighton Hostel. Two of these cases were removed to hospital. Several cases of Measles occurred at Horton. Two cases of Whooping Cough were reported from Llaithddu. Six cases of Acute Anterior Polio Myelitis were reported, four from Llangunllo, and two from Lower Stanage. Five of these cases were sent to Hospital. Four cases of Diphtheria were reported from Llaithddu. A full report on this outbreak has already been submitted to you.

Housing. Fourteen of the sixteen Parishes comprising the Rural District Area, have been surveyed, and details regarding Sanitary and Structural conditions tabulated for action when conditions permit.

Milk Supply. Cowsheds and Farm premises in all the Parishes have been Surveyed, and conditions affecting Buildings, Floors, Light and Ventilation noted. Buildings are not of the modern standard, but every effort is made by those concerned to maintain clean conditions both as regards the state of buildings and vessels used. Schools throughout the Rural area are now supplied with milk produced in the area.

Water Supply. Close observation of the water supplies of the District has been maintained. No serious shortage of water was experienced in any part of the Rural area. Most houses obtain their supplies from Wells and Springs. The quality is regarded as fairly satisfactory. Quite a large number of samples of Water have been submitted for analysis, and where these proved unsatisfactory steps were taken to improve local conditions. All records and statistics are being carefully preserved so that a full report can be submitted at the end of the War.

I am your obedient Servant.

M.H. Carleton.

Medical Officer of Health.

